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A FIRE FIGHTING APPARATUS

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

[0001] This invention relates to an apparatus for fighting a fire.

[0002] A known apparatus for fighting a fire inside or outside a building includes fire extinguishers containing various chemicals as well as water, and ceiling-mounted water sprinklers. However, most sprinkler heads must sense a temperature of 200 degrees F or 85 degrees C before activation occurs, thereby giving the fire time to become extremely hot and, therefore, more difficult to extinguish. Also, what is not destroyed by fire will be destroyed by water in that room and the rooms below and adjacent thereto.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0003] An object of the present invention is to provide a new fire-fighting apparatus that can be used independently or in conjunction with any of the known fire fighting apparatus, including those mentioned above.

[0004] Accordingly, the invention provides an apparatus for fighting a fire. The apparatus includes a suspendible container having a perforated lower surface. Each of the perforations is closed by a heat-sensitive membrane that is capable of rupture at an elevated temperature. The container contains a fire retardant material that is released upon rupture of the membrane. The apparatus includes an electric heater adjacent to the membrane and a smoke detector controlling the heater such that upon the detection of smoke the heater is switched on to rupture the membrane.

[0005] There is also provided, as a separate invention, an apparatus for fighting a fire comprising a suspendible container having a perforated lower surface each of whose perforations is closed by a first heat-sensitive membrane which is capable of rupture at an elevated temperature, the container containing a fire retardant material which is released upon rupture of